

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 04727 261119Z

73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 /068 W

----- 037444

R 261103Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5368

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4727

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SY, LE

SUBJECT: SAIQA ACTIVITIES IN ALEY AREA IN LEBANON

CORRESPONDENT FOR LONDON ECONOMIST RESIDENT IN LEBANON TOLD EMBOFF NOV 24 OF SAIQA ACTIVITIES IN ALEY AREA NEAR HIS HOME. HE STATED THAT SAIQA FORCES ARRIVED ABOUT MONTH AGO IN ALEY, JUST AS SECURITY IN THAT PREVIOUSLY QUIESCENT DRUZE-DOMINATED MOUNTAIN AREA HAD BEGUN TO DETERIORATE. IMMEDIATELY AFTER ESTABLISHING HIS FORCES IN ALEY, SAIQA LOCAL COMMANDER SENT CARLOADS OF ARMED SAIQA PERSONNEL TO SURROUNDING VILLAGES WHERE THEY SOUGHT OUT RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS AND INFORMED THEM THAT ANY INCIDENTS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO SAIQA, WHICH WOULD THEN MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO LOCATE PERPETRATORS FOR PROPER DISCIPLINING. RESULT, ACCORDING TO CORRESPONDENT, WAS NOTICEABLE HALT IN DAYLIGHT ROBBERIES AND VANDALISM BECAUSE POTENTIAL TROUBLEMAKERS "REALIZED THAT SAIQA WAS BACKED BY A STRONG GOVERNMENT" (I.E., SYRIA) THAT

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WAS SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO RESTORE ORDER AND

SECURITY. HE ADDED THAT SITUATION GENERALLY
SECURE IN ALEY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES AT PRESENT
BUT THAT VEHICLES WERE STILL SOMETIMES STOLEN ALONG ROADS
BETWEEN VILLAGES. HE SAID THAT AREA SOUTH OF SHEMLAN
CONTROLLED BY PPS.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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